

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN,BEN>](mailto:Washburn.Ben@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN,BEN)
To:
CC:
Date: 7/24/2014 2:26:11 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/24/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/24/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.); **Sen. Roy Blunt** (Mo.); **Rep. William Lacy Clay** (Mo.); **Rep. Ann Wagner** (Mo.) – Letter – 7/18/14: West Lake Landfill. Due: 8/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis – Veronique LaCapra – 7/24/14 – Question about EPA Region 7's response to Congressional delegation letter about construction timetable for isolation barrier at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 7/24/14 – Question about status of final report of soil sampling at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Hoosier Ag Today - Ag Senators Express Frustrations, Concerns to EPA Administrator - 7/24/14 - Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy met with Senate Ag Committee Republicans Tuesday – according to The Hagstrom Report. Mississippi's Thad Cochran told McCarthy the Waters of the U.S. proposal and agriculture interpretive rule are a source of uncertainty, anxiety and distrust for people in rural areas.

<http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/ag-senators-express-frustrations-concerns-to-epa-administrator/>

DTN/Progressive Farmer - Senators meet with EPA administrator - 7/23/14 - Republican members of the Senate Agriculture Committee finally got their meeting with Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy on Tuesday and urged her to withdraw the Waters of the U.S. rule, but a McCarthy spokeswoman said issues with the rule can be handled in the agency's comment process.

http://www.kxlo-klcm.com/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3224:senators-meet-with-epa-administrator&catid=8:ag-news-pod&Itemid=115

Canada Free Press - A Great Plan to Replace the EPA - 7/24/14 - For years now I have been saying that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must be eliminated and its

powers given to the fifty states, all of which have their own departments of environmental protection. Until now, however, there has been no plan put forth to do so.

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/64797>

New York Times - States Against E.P.A. Rule on Carbon Pollution Would Gain, Study Finds - 7/24/14 - Gov. Rick Perry of Texas and Senator James M. Inhofe of Oklahoma are among the most vocal Republican skeptics of the science that burning fossil fuels contributes to global warming, but a new study to be released Thursday found that their states would be among the biggest economic winners under a regulation proposed by President Obama to fight climate change.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/24/us/states-against-epa-rule-on-carbon-pollution-would-gain-study-finds.html?_r=0

Daily Caller - EPA Chief Says NY Times Report Was Given 'Surprising Credibility' - 7/24/14 - Environmental Protection Agency chief Gina McCarthy denied Wednesday that environmental lobbyists played an outsized role in crafting the agency's carbon dioxide regulations.

<http://dailycaller.com/2014/07/23/epa-chief-says-ny-times-report-was-given-surprising-credibility/#ixzz38OcOLb3B>

National Journal - A One-Step Guide to Infuriating an EPA Official - 7/24/14 - Republican Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming accused EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Wednesday of letting the Natural Resources Defense Council dictate its rules, saying the agency had deferred to the group's "powerful, wealthy, Washington lawyers and lobbyists" while writing the agency's carbon-pollution rules for existing power plants.

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/a-one-step-guide-to-infuriating-an-epa-official-20140723>

Inside Climate - Runaround: Three Months of Correspondence With the EPA - 7/24/14 - In February, after we published our first stories on the Eagle Ford, we began trying to answer that question by seeking on-the-record interviews with EPA officials in Washington, D.C., and Texas. Five months later, no such interviews have been granted.

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20140724/runaround-three-months-correspondence-epa>

The Hill - EPA gears up for public hearings on climate rule - 7/23/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency will hold four public hearings next week to hear from people across the country on its carbon pollution standards.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/213149-epa-gears-up-for-public-hearings-on-climate-rule#ixzz38OeAxGcA>

TWC News - EPA Head Defends Carbon Emission Cuts - 7/23/14 - The Obama administration's new rule aimed at cutting greenhouse gas emissions from power plants is controversial, to say the least. At a Senate hearing Wednesday, Republicans made it clear that they thought the Environmental Protection Agency was overstepping its power.

<http://austin.twcnews.com/content/news/303462/epa-head-defends-carbon-emission-cuts/#sthash.sjAAsUAe.dpuf>

The Courier-Journal - McConnell meets EPA chief on power plants, hits policy - 7/23/14 - Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy met late Tuesday with Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, one of her chief critics on new rules limiting pollution from coal-fired power plants. After their meeting, McConnell, R-Ky., remained a "no sale" on the Obama administration's efforts to combat global warming.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/story/politics-blog/2014/07/23/mitch-mcconnell-remains-critical-of-epa-power-plant-rules/13043459/>

Wall Street Journal - Radioactive Waste in St. Louis at Risk From Smoldering Trash - 7/24/14 - Pressure is mounting to deal with the legacy of radioactive contamination and possible damage to human health caused by work done in this region for the U.S. nuclear-weapons program. A state environmental consultant recently warned that a "subsurface smoldering event," caused by garbage heating up underground, might be heading toward a section of the West Lake landfill, where thousands of tons of radioactive garbage is buried.

http://online.wsj.com/articles/radioactive-waste-in-st-louis-at-risk-from-smoldering-trash-1406219385?mod=_newsreel_4

Quad City Times - Expand topsoil regulations - 7/24/14 - In reference to the topsoil issue ("State takes another look at topsoil restoration rule," July 13), the answer to this "problem" doesn't seem all that complicated to me.

http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/expand-topsoil-regulations/article_ec75c9ae-b676-5365-a326-2097470fb3ea.html

Center for Public Integrity - EPA: No comment on fracking air pollution - 7/24/14 - For more than a year, InsideClimate News and the Center for Public Integrity have been reporting on air pollution caused by the fracking boom in the Eagle Ford Shale of South Texas. Despite hundreds of complaints from residents, many of them about noxious air

emissions, we discovered that the state knows almost nothing about the extent of the pollution and rarely fines companies for breaking emission laws.

<http://news.yahoo.com/epa-no-fracking-air-pollution-124401964.html>

The Hill - EPA climate rule economically feasible, study says - 7/24/14 - Turning to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency programs is becoming more and more economically feasible for utilities across the U.S., according to a new report. The analysis by advocacy group Ceres concludes that states have the ability to go "beyond the fence" to meet new targets set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) without breaking the budget for utilities.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/213254-epa-climate-rule-economically-feasible-study-says#ixzz38PthVffN>

Gant Daily - Under Water: The EPA's Struggle to Combat Pollution - 7/24/14 - For years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has been frustrated in its efforts to pursue hundreds of cases of water pollution – repeatedly tied up in legal fights about exactly what bodies of water it has the authority to monitor and protect. Efforts in Congress to clarify the EPA's powers have been defeated. And two Supreme Court decisions have done little to decide the question.

<http://gantdaily.com/2014/07/24/under-water-the-epas-struggle-to-combat-pollution/>

Mint Press News - Is The EPA Doing Enough To Stop Corporate Polluters? - 7/24/14 - A new investigative report, published by The Crime Report, alleges that the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Justice often fail to hold corporations criminally accountable for violating environmental laws, including knowingly discharging raw sewage into water or killing a bald eagle.

<http://www.mintpressnews.com/epa-enough-stop-corporate-polluters-2/194476/>

Indian Country Today - EPA Awards \$5 Million for Research on Climate Change and Tribal Health - 7/24/14 - Six groups and institutions will receive a total of about \$5 million to study the health effects of climate change on tribes, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced on July 23.

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2014/07/23/epa-awards-5-million-research-climate-change-and-tribal-health-156029>

Daily Breeze - EPA's new rules would clear the air near oil refineries: Editorial - 7/24/14 - Oil refineries in the South Bay and Long Beach are likely to be facing some tough and long-needed restrictions that will help residents breathe a little easier. It's too bad it took a lawsuit to get there.

<http://www.dailybreeze.com/opinion/20140723/epas-new-rules-would-clear-the-air-near-oil-refineries-editorial>

West Virginia Metro News - EPA's McCarthy to Senate committee—coal still key - 7/24/14 - Federal Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy told members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Wednesday coal will still play a sizeable role in the nation's power generation capacity even if newly proposed emission regulations for existing power plants are enacted.

<http://wvmetronews.com/2014/07/23/epas-mccarthy-to-senate-committee-coal-still-key/>

Mother Jones - Halliburton Fracking Spill Mystery: What Chemicals Polluted an Ohio Waterway? - On the morning of June 28, a fire broke out at a Halliburton fracking site in Monroe County, Ohio. As flames engulfed the area, trucks began exploding and thousands of gallons of toxic chemicals spilled into a tributary of the Ohio River, which supplies drinking water for millions of residents.

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/07/halliburton-ohio-river-spill-fracking>

Courier-Journal - EPA seeks answers on safer chemical plants, processes - 7/24/14 - Should the Environmental Protection Agency require companies that store and use large quantities of dangerous chemicals require a safer-alternatives analysis?

<http://www.courier-journal.com/story/watchdog-earth/2014/07/24/epa-seeks-help-shaping-chemical-safety-plans/13108405/>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/24/14 – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/28/14 – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29/14 – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29-30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/31/14 – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/11/14 – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

8/13/14 – Iowa Association of Business & Industry, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

DRA:

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events**AWMD**

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592